India/State/Union Territory		*Rural Population, 1991*
1		*2*
2.	Chandigarh	66,070
3.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	126,681
4.	Daman & Diu	53,901
5.	Delhi	943,392
6.	Lakshadweep	22,592
7.	Pondicherry	290,111

*The 1991 Census has not been held in Jammu & Kashmir. The rural population for 1991 for J & K is as projected by the Standing committee of Experts on Population Projections (October, 1989).

Source:- Paper-2 of 1991, Series-1, Provisional population Totals: Rural-Urban Distribution - Census of India 1991; Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India. (Statement 10, Page 19.ª.

Shortage of Drinking Water in Tribal Areas of Maharashtra

93. SHRI. ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of drinking water, particularly during summer days, in the tribal areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to remove the shortage of drinking water under the potable water mission;

(c) the details of other programmes that are under consideration for these regions under this mission; and

(d) the provisions proposed to be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan to make potable water available in the tribal areas of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) No report has been received from the State Government of Maharashtra about acute shortage of drinking water particularly during summer days in the tribal areas.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Under the guidelines for implementation of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme the poor sections of the society like Scheduled Castes, Schedule Tribes and landless agricultural labourers are to be given highest priority so as to ensure that they have equal access to water supply facilities. The Government has also decided that atleast 10% of the funds released under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme will be utilised for drinking water supply for Scheduled Tribes. Such earmarked funds will not be diverted for any other purpose. Assistance of Rs. 4 crores is likely to be given to the State Government of Maharashtra for providing safe drinking water facilities in 2000 Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe habitations in 1991-92.

(d) The outlays for the Eighth Five Year Plan have not been finalised by the Planning Commission.

Villages Affected by Flouride Mixed Drinking Water in Andhra Pradesh

94. SHRI. DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to rehabilitate the villages in Nalgonda and other districts of Andhra Pradesh affected by fluoride mixed drinking water;

(b) whether the Netherlands released some funds to help those villagers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the criteria adopted for helping the victims therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Research Conducted by KVIC

95. SHRI DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission conducted research on production of sugar from toddy and preservation of toddy for one year; and

(b) the details of plans to develop industries based on coir and palm-produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) Palm sugar can be produced only from Neera which is unfermented juice of palm and not from toddy. Toddy is a fermented palm juice. KVIC is producing palm sugar from Neera (palm juice), by open Pan Boiling System/Vacuum Pan Boiling System in Tamilnadu State where Palmgur industry is flourishing.

(b) Programmes for development of export and domestic markets of coir based products will be pursued. For development of infrastructure, the schemes for cooperativisation in the coir sector in brown coir development will be accelerated. The scheme for development of skilled manpower will be undertaken for quality and upgradation in the traditional white coir sector and formation of units for conversion of coir fibre into yarn and value added products in the brown coir sector.

KVIC has taken steps for the development of palm fruity by making use of natural raw materials, fortification of palm sugar as well as palm syrup, and introduction of improved techniques to help plam tappers.

Ramanujam committee on Industrial dispute

96. SHRI. DHARMABHIKSHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have examined the recommendations of the Ramanujam Committee on Industrial relations law;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) to (c).The report of the Ramanujam Committee is under examination in consultation with the State Governments and the Administrations of the Union Territories. It is also proposed to place it for consideration in the next session of the Indian Labour Conference.